BROADWAY NOTE BOOK.

MEN AND THINGS, THE COUNTRY ROUND. THE PERSONAL NOTES AND NOTIONS OF A BROAD-WAY LOUNGER.

WAY LOUNGER.

Haverly's failure is a warning to theatrical speculators. The drama has its unities of management as well as of composition, and the vulgar commerce which would monopolize all the humors and individuality on the stage is worse than the Russian censorship which would prune them. He who wished the world had but one head so he could cut it off, was named Nero.

That shall be he request who wishes the world to have What shall he be named who wishes the world to have at one laugh and he to farm it out !

Colonel Thomas W. Knox, who has been going to Eu ope every summer for years, says that on the whole he njoys life on this side the best, living and society havdeveloped so agreeably. His pocket guide to Europe will be supplemented soon by a guide around the world, the first careful study for the needs of the enlarging number of cosmopolitan travellers who have long ago exhausted Europe and now turn to Japan, China and the th Seas for study and recreation. I was speaking erday to a gentleman who has lived in the West Inseveral seasons, about the facilities for tourists e, especially in the winter. He says that life is exngly dull, not only in the islands, Havana except-ngly dull, not only in the islands, Havana except-nt on the Spanish main, and that an American liler would soon feel that he had leed himself if he lay over the ong time between steamers at even such centres of reole life as Martinique or Guadeloupe. He says that fassau is the best place for winter, and it derives its joy n the Americans congregated there.

ock companies suggests that many such persons exis New-York, some of them never brought into Court, how a yet extracted large sums of money at different nee from confiding fellow-operators. The same disin-nation to prosecute exists in these chance matters as elination to prosecute exists in these chance matters as in games of cards where one may feel certain that he has been robbed, yet may not know how he prove it, or may shrink from informing upon himself. The motto of this kind of is invariably: "Go for your friends and enlarge acquaintance and, as you extend it, take others For some time these schemes, whether mining m." For some time these schemes, whether through the or grazing or Spanish grants, were floated through the small country banks, whose officers or directors knew from the deposits what persons had idle money and were waiting for profitable openings. In time the losses in the ruralneighborhoods prevented further jobbery there, nd next trading began right in this city, where there are lways found numbers of men unwilling to invest at the ent low rates of interest and fortunate at making a arn. These being cheated in some worthless stock be-ome desperate to put it off on their friends, and thus the radius of victims enlarges and responsifility goes beyond the original seducer, who can hardly to found in the haystack of fraud any more than the origin nel "needic." Patent rights, of which there are many of great merit, have also been so profitable that there are bogus operators in that field. The success of the kelephone and of the earliest electric light companies, and of competing telegraph lines, and the rumors of large ortunes made by a few persons who took stock "on the cround floor," as it is called, enhanced the efforts of ogues to come in with companies where there was carcely any plant whatever. The great extension of our railway system and the employment of improved, brakes, wheels, springs, platforms, signals, etc., brought numbers of operators, who care nothing about the higher in hand, so it is a tempting one requently fraudulent stock is sold on hat is called a guarantee, with the promise to take it nck if returned within a reasonable time. It is some-mes taken back where the investor has worldly forces nd might make an example of the offenders. mes, however, whose industrial relation makes them em respectable, are not confined to New-York, but in ondon and Berlin have long exploited; indeed, ever mee the beginning of the railroad age. The free habits f our people give free access into speculative society of reli-dressed, plausible and baseless scamps, some of whom have already made considerable money and pos-ces the means to defend themselves legally if proscuted, or even to prosecute in turn. The law
self is a fruitful resort of certain kinds

† jobbers who solicit opportunities to
arass people with suits, taking the chances of a comromise and perhaps employing some brace of attorneys mise and perhaps employing some brace of attorney, the year, who divide possible damages with them.

Mr. R. T. Merrick, who has been making a flerce speech Mr. R. T. Merrick, who has been making a flerce speech in the Star Route cases for the Government, belongs to a family in the old slave counties of Maryland in which at least two brothers have become distinguished at the bar. Merrick went to Chicago in the time of Douglas and became in Northern Illinois a sort of rival of John A. Logan as Dougla's oratorical lieutenant. When the sectional rupture occurred, however, he forswore his Northern alliances and returned to the District of Columbia, where he married the daughterfor L.C. McGluire, a bia, where he married the daughteriof J. C. McGuire, a wealthy retired bookbinder and auctioneer, who had with the idea that his son might be sent to the Senate. With the idea that his son hight be sent to the conset, Mr. Merrick has perhaps the largest practice in Wash-ington City individually. He is never quite out of poli-tics and has been considered as a possible Attorney-General if the Democracy should come to power. He has a large family of children and preserves his agile, oin tiliant, stinging temperament very well. It is sai that he desired to be counsel for Mrs. Surratt, but was prevented by his father-in-law, though he afterward went to the defence of her son. He is a Roman Catho-

The possessors of large cattle ranches on the Government domain have been stampeded within the last fortnight by the news that the Secretary of the Interior means to have the Attorney-General prosecute all who by false evidence of other people have concentrated large tracts of grazing lands under one ownership to the ajury of the public under the general homestead and ettlement laws. In Texas where the public domain be. injury of see people duries the general nomestead and settlement laws. In Texas where the public domain belongs to the State Government these prosecutions do not apply, but they cover most of the country besides, except where they are Mexican grants, and even these in many cases are believed to be frandulent. In the Indian Territory also the Secretary of the Interior has moved against persons who have been grazing great hards of cattle by private contracts with the Indian nations, who are not allowed to deal in that way with American citizens, except with the approval of the Department. There are two classes of regues figuring in these instances, the first being the rogue who has made the trespass on the public property, and the other being the rogue who, seeing the first to have a good thing, proposes to get after him with the machinery of the Government to make him divide, or to retain the second rogue to get out of the trouble. Natretain the second rogue to get out of the trouble. Naturally this city is the headquarters of all classes of rancheros, and most of the successful ones keep accounts

was asking Edward M. McCook recently there were any good mines in this country, r question being based on the knowledge that set of the mines that had been peddied in stock here debrought their buyers to grief. He told me that are were numbers of good mines privately held, and autioned the Tombstone group in Arizona and another ries of mines in that Territory which were giving out the property of the property o series of mines in that Territory which were giving out several bundred thousand dollars each per month. He said that toward Mexico the mines were more reliable than further north and that sharp practice in mining stocks could only arise from mining successes. The richest men in California and Colorado had made all their money in mines or in mining stocks, and generally took the bulk of the money out of the mine first and then took another fortune out of the stockholders. The business of mining being in the nature of gambling, it of course entailed more loss for a large number of people than gain. Yet the aggregate of the mining production, as clearly shown by the Government reports, was so large that if mining were abandoned the amount of ready money in this country would be very materially diminished. While the Americans groundles about the non-mecess of their mines, foreigners here are very much impressed with our mining wealth and the richness of particular deposits they had examined, but they did not expect to make a great fortune in two or three months, and were content with a safe and respectable return annually.

stained with the double guilt of the rebel and the patricide. You have committed the error hardest to be for cide. You have committed the error hardest to be for-given; you have distrusted the good sense, the justice, the magnanimity of the people; you have sown the seeds of passion, Jealousy and disgust; you have made the souls of ten thousand familiar with thoughts of resistance, tumult and civil war; you have sanctioned the leprous sentiment: 'It is time to calculate the value of the Union!'"

During the past week I made a visit to the old slave counties of Maryland on the lower Potomac River, and enjoyed riding through as picturesque a country as The hills are very high above the bottoms and stream The hills are very high above the bottoms and streams and are beautifully wooded with oaks and chestnuts and occasional pine forests, the latter taking off the malaria which is still the curse of much of this country. Before the Revolutionary War this region was preferred above all others for country houses and estates. Many of these are now found in a half-ruined condition. In some cases the names of the original proprietors are no longer known. The land is cheap and of good quality for vegotables, fruits and the vine, and the inhabitants are behavior to induce the hone that canneries may stand in ginning to include the hope that canneries may stand in place of manufactories to them. They have cultivated tobacco and corn until they no longer grow well. Their tobacco is excelled by that of Pennsylvania and several tobacco is excelled by that of Pennsylvania and several other States, and finds its market now only in France, where its mild quality recommends it. The country is much better cleared up however, since the war, but the difficulty of paying the black servants sufficient wages to energize them is generally acknowledged. Above all things they want emigration in that South Carolina of Maryland, but they have had no emigration since the war. The Eastern Shore of Maryland has very much improved compared to the Western Shore. Lands in the former peninsula have risen in value, and both the grain former peninsula have risen in value, and both the grain and the berry and fruit culture have driven up the price of land till no man exposes a farm for sale but it is immediately grasped, whereas on the western peninsula land offered for sale, if each is required, must be sacrifleed. I found, however, very general toleration of opin on on the Western Shore, and the Republicans stand very well with their Democratic neighbors, and under the onest sway of Governor Hamilton, whom the old ring politicians dislike, there is a fair registry and a fair count, and consequently the old slave counties go Re-

Among the persons I visited was Judge Frederick Stone, who belongs to one of the most honored families in the State. His earliest ancestor was Lord Baltimore's Governor of Maryland, and led an army againstithe Furltans on the Severn, and being defeated barely saved his life from the gallows. The Lord Proprietor afterward gave him as much land as he could ride around in one day in Nanjemoy Neck, called Poynton Manor. In a later generation Thomas Stone, born on the manor aforesaid, entered the Continental Congress and signed the Declaration of Independence. He was the great-uncle of the present judge, who is a Republican and was elected by over twelve hundred majority to the Court of Appeals, from his district, taking the Republican nomination and getting the votes of men without regard to party. Nevertheless he was a Southern sympathizer in the war, but throw his efforts into the line of progress and liberality. Mr. Frederick Stone was the counsel for Dr. Samue Mudd as well as for David G. Herold, two of the conspirators against President Lincoln's life, and Mrs. Surratt applied to him in the midst of her case, feeling that she was very imperfectly defended, to come to her support also. Said I to Mr. Stone: "Did not the Government offer to pay all you gentlemen for your slaves in Mary-land!" "It did, in a very fair-minded way, and yet we repelled the proposition, which I can account for on no other ground than that we had gone stark mad."

I paid a visit to the grave of a signer of the Declaration last week, and was delighted to find how perfectly his home and property are retained in his family. There were but four signers of the Declaration from Maryland, the youngest of whom was Thomas Stone. He lived about two miles from Port Tobacco, on an estate called Haberdeventure, which, from a high plateau, commands lovely views of the majestic Potomae, which is incomparably our finest river for broad, baylike prospects. His house, which was finished about 1771, is made of brick in one high story with a second story in the broken gable, and there are wings retiring from the building in a segment of a circle, in one of which was his office. One of the large rooms in the main building is wainscoted to the roof and contains his portrait painted by Pine. His next neighbor was the celebrated Dr. Gustavus Brown, who was called in to attend the last fillness of General Washington. The Stone estate, in nearly its General Washington. The Stone estate, in nearly its original proportions, is now managed by a maiden lady, Miss Margaret Stone, who takes great pride in the family matters and showed me some elegant antique furniture and the measuring-glass and medicine-cheet of Dr. Brown. Passing through an out-field on the finsh of the house I came to a clump of cedars where lay the signer and his wife, who died but a few months apart, and her death broke his heast at the early age of forty-four. The inscription is as follows: "Thomas Stone, son of David and Elizabeth Stone, departed this life October 5, 1787, aged forty-four years. The Archives of Maryland will show the offices of trust he has held. He was an able old house, the solitary student of William B. Stene, his

visited the grave of Washington's physician, Dr. Brown. He had one of the very large mansions overlooking the River Potomac, built about 1760, with an elegant garden falling in terraces from its front. There were no medica colleges in the land at that time, and he took medical students and they dissected bodies under the house, and I saw the furnace where they worked and the wing of brick in which they lodged and took their lessons, brick in which they lodged and took their lessons. Washington visited Dr. Brown and sounded the same old door-knocker I handled but yesterday there. The mansion is perhaps seventy by fifty feet, with deep cellars paved and bricked, and the room in which Dr. Brown died is preserved very much as it was. The house is now in possession of Miss Olivia Floyd, a maiden lady and cousin of ex-Secretary John B. Floyd, of Virginia. She farms about six hundred acres (at this place of "Bose Line"). The deserver tomb is at the base of the termses. Hill." The doctor's tomb is at the base of the terraces Hill." The doctor's tomb is at the base of the terraces in a corner, now deeply overgrown with blackberry bushes, and says as follows: "Sacred to the memory of Gustavus Richard Brown; this tombstone is creeted by his reliet, Margaret Brown, in testimony of her respect and affection, and is a monument of his skill as a physician, of his learning as a scholar, of his wisdom as a citizen, of his generosity as a friend, of his elegance as a gentieman, of his hospitality as a neighbor, of his kindness as a master, his tenderness as a husband and parent and of his benevolence as a man. He died September 30, 1804, aged fifty-six years." So he was but fifty-one years old when he closed General Washington's eyes. years old when he closed General Washington's eyes. The descendants of Dr. Brown are intermarried with their next neighbors, the Stones, and I saw two interesting young ladies in the Stone family, whose names are Brown, one of whom is at the Normal School of Maryland, studying to be a teacher.

One of the remarkable cases of boldness and right coming to recognition is afforded in the case of Henry Winter Davis. Mr. Frederick Stone, who was a Democrat in former days, afterward a Southern man in feeling, and former days, atterward a Soutaern man in reeining, and now a conservative Republican, said to me: "Davis was the strongest man we have produced in the period of the Civil War. We did not understand him, but are beginning to do so. ' He was an original anti-slavery man though born on the Fotomac River. His aunt has visited me. Davis would have plunged into the anti-slavery issue without any disguise if he had not insted the Demo-eratic party so much. * He knew that if he would throw issue without any disguse if he had not insted the Democratic party so much. "He knew that if he would throw
himself away in Maryland by taking up that issue the
Democrats would rejoice, so he went into the KnowNothing movement, about which he cared very little, and
used it to exasperate and humiliate the Democracy.
While the roughest elements worked under his banner he
never gave them the least social consideration, and after
making a speech to them would not allow them to shake
hands with him or hardly to touch him as he passed off
the pintform. He was a remarkable orator and his judgment was never abandoned in the impetuosity of his
speech. In the light of events he was almost the only
great man south of Mason and Dixon's line. His abilities
have always been conceded in this State, and there is now
a disposition to understand the motive and inspiration of
his political conduct."

I inspected in Charles County, Maryland, Court House, the following deed last week of Sarah Bankos, dated 1690. She was the widow of Robert of Richard Bankos, merchant, and left property "to my four natural-born children." To Mary, "one Indian boy called Raijih which I had in exchange with Samuel Doozal of the colony of Virginia for a negro man; one cow named Colo with all her female increase end my diamond ring, one gold ring and my posey bearing Contsut; my little cheet of frawers, a walnut troo dressing box, a little walnut troo looking "glass, a little sidebeard table, one brase pair of tongs, fire shovell and fender with a pair of brase andirons, half a dosen diaper napkins, a diaper table cloth, one suit of childbed linen larod and one dosen of diaper clouts together with a childbed basket lined with silk and a sky colored water tabby pin quishon, a flowered satin mantic, a white tufted Holian mantle, one pink colored satin pottloost laced, one pair of red serge curtains, vallones, with a counterpane of red serge curtains, vallones, with a counterpane of red serge curtains, vallones, with a counterpane of

THEATRICAL SYSTEMS.

CHANGES IN THE STAR AND COMBINATION COMPANIES.

MANAGER AUGUSTIN DALY PREDICTS A RETURN TO

THE STOCK SYSTEM. Augustin Daly has been for fifteen years one of the most prominent managers of New-York, and his name is often in men's mouths and in the papers; yet he a personally among the least familiar of what may be salled public figures in the profession which depends so much for success on publicity. Those who know him end his pushing, energetic way will perhaps not attrib-ute it to over modesty, but it is a fact that he is seldon seen in the street and only semi-occasionally in the front of his own theatre; still more rarely before his own curtain. This inclination to seclusion is the consequence of an intense devotion to his particular business—or his ombination of profession as playwright and his busi-ness as manager. His is a peculiar nervous tempera-ment. Instead of detracting from his business activity it adds to its force and to his intellectual activity. It makes him as quick a talker as he is a thinker; and he not on y argues at lightning speed, but reaches conclusions by the shortest logical "cut-across-lots"; and in business matters he decides without hesitation. He is a constant worker, never finishing one play without having made notes and suggestions for another; and if his company could be made of the same cast-iron stuff as himself the members would probably have to submit to a "call for rehearsal" of a new piece the day after the first night of another. In conversation Mr. Daly has the air of one constantly trying to tear himself away from his hearer and determined to accomplish his purpose at the close of the very next sentence. But he holds on as by an imaginary button to his listener, never allowing him to get in a word except as ejaculatory or interrogatory; and when, at last, he is through he cuts off the imaginary button with a jerk and escapes. He has a remarkably quick eye and ear for things awry, detecting the alightest error in pronunciation, or defect in enunciation, or violation of the precise in posing on his stage; and he is a terror alike to stage hands behind or ushers in front who misset a scene or misseat an auditor. A MANAGER'S HOBBY AND THEORY.

"A perfect stock-company" has always been Mr. Daly's hobby and its formation his aim. He roge it re-morselessly in the days of his old Fifth Avenue Theatre in Twenty-fourth-st., of which he was the founder, and in which he discovered and developed and raised to a metropolitan fame, which has in some instances since ome universal, Clara Morris, Agues Ethel, Fanny become universal, Ciara Morris, Agnes Etbel, Fanny Davenport, Linda Dietz, Kate Claxton, Sara Jewett, Emily Rigl, Bijou Heron, James Lewis, George Clarke, Henry Crisp, Louis James, and others. He also brought Bron-son Howard forward as a dramatist at this old house. Fire first and financial troubles common to all in the period from 1873 to 1876 brought disaster on Daly's first attempt. But for four or five years past, in what may be called his second career, he has been laboring against wind and tide in forming another such a company as he could call " a perfect stock-company,"

He began this effort at a bad time and in a bad location. He not only had to rebuild the house he selected as "the local habitation" of his new company, but he had as the local modification of his new company, our has not been to redeem its name from the bad repute into which former managers had permitted it to fail. The time was unpropitious, too, in that the combination system was at its height of temporary popularity. There was a public craze for melodrama and a consequent indifference to the comedy of real life. The principal stars had fallen in with the ruling passion and had formed companies on the combination system, so that they had no use for stock-companies at any point. Moreover the combina-tions and the stars, too, had increased in numbers, and these had absorbed in their ranks many of the best stock players, so that good material content to do stock work was uncommonly scarce. Other managers were before him in getting the pick of the best English importations among the profession, and in the purchase of the rights to English and French plays. Mr. Daly had to draw for his supply of foreign plays on the German school, and to nis supply of loreign plays on the German accoor, and to resort to his ewn powers as an adapter. As for actors he was compelled to train them, with a few notable ex-ceptions, from comparatively raw material. And it had also to be of native material, of which according to a popular delusion, there was an alarming deficiency. But Mr. Daly has from time to time found rich specimens in this material. He is a great "snapper up of unconsidered triffes" in other companies; and by de-grees he has brought from all points and, it may be added, largely from chaos, what is now generally con-ceded to be a strong and harmonious comedy company.

FAILURES AND BITS OF LAST SEASON. It is Mr. Daly's theory that no individual mem-ber of his company should be "starred," but that the company as a whole should be the attraction to an andience. He recognizes that he has in this involved himself in the double duty of forming a highly trained company and of educating audiences to appreciate a thoroughly uniform, even and harmonious performance, in which minor parts are played with skill little inferior to that of the most prominent ones. To this task he has for the second time devoted himself, and for the last four years, -or since he rehabilitated the old Broadway snow the office of the State and with the close of this season, a friend was and sold in the control of the State and the control of

congratulating him in the presence of a Tainuve reporter. His congratulations were, however, unfortunately followed by the sympothizing remark that he (Daly) "had had some devillab hard luck at the beginning of the season." This seemed to irritate Mr. Daly not a little.

"Not a bit of it," he said, catching a firm hold on an imaginary button and talking straight shead. "I had as good a season as I had any reason to expect, or, in fact, did expect. Some previous seasons were bad, but this past one has been uniformly good. I had to redeem my house from a had reputation to begin with, and I lost money the first season—a little more than I had calculated on, though the 'Royal Middy' and the 'Arabian Nights' were financial successes. The second season I made nothing, though 'Needles and Pins' and 'Cliderella at School' were 'goes.' The third season I have had only one positive failure and that lasted only four nights. That was 'Serge Panine,' in which I admit my judgment was all out—all wrong. But there was money for the theatre in every other piece I produced; yes there was," he added in response to an increditious enlarging of his opties on the part of the shoulder-shringing friend. "I put on 'She Would and She Woulin't' for seven performances only, and played it to paying bouses for three weeks—the longest run itever had since written 175 years ago. It was such a financial success—this revival of an old comedy with my new company—that I shall make a revival of two or three of the more famous but unfamiliar of the old dramas a feature of each season. I should not have withdrawn 'She Would' at the end of the three weeks—the old dramas a feature of each season. I should not have withdrawn 'She Would' at the end of the three weeks except for previous amounements. Then 'The Squire' paid handsamely; so did' Our English Friend'; and '7-20-8' was the greatest success which I have had since 'Divorce.' I could have been doing it still but for engagements made before its production to take my company to other cities."

HOUS

"I judged largely of your business by my frequent observation of what I thought small audiences," said his

friend.
"Nothing is more deceptive, said Mr. Daly, "than the looks of a house. No one who has not an insight from actual experience of the deadhead system in vogue in New-York City, and in fact all over the country, can have any idea of the actual money value of a house by looking at it. You saw frequently at my theatre what were apparently small houses, while at neighboring were apparently small houses, while at neighboring houses there were, also apparently, very big houses. But it often happened that there was more money in Daly's than at any of its neighbors. My houses were genuine; no 'deadheeds' to speak of; no 'bill board tlekets'; no 'professionals'; no 'paper' of any sort. Each seat which you saw filled represented an actual dollar to me. Five hundred people scattered about a theatre of the size of mine do not make much of a showing, but they represent nearly \$700 in the treasury, and seven times nearly \$700 means nearly if not quite \$4,500 a week, which leaves the manager who has no star or combination to share with a very handsome profit on a week's business, in spite of the costliness of a high-salaried stock company such as mine."

A RUINOUS SYSTEM. "What is the extent of the 'deadheading' as now sys-

" It was determined when I opened the new theatre," said Mr. Daly, "to reduce the 'deadheads' to the minimum. We send the press two tickets each for the opening nights of each piece. 'Professional courtesy' we construe in our own way. We do not consider that constrict in our own way. We us not consider that because an actor belongs to another theatre he is thereby entitled to the liberty of ours, any more than a cierk in one dry goods house is entitled to runninge through and examine the goods of another. So we require professionals to write when they want seats, and if their standing is such that it is thought desirable they should see our piece and place, and we believe that they will speak fairly of both, we invite them. Our 'bill boards' are just 15-0 in number; we issue two tickets a month for each, making about ten tickets for each performance, and these admit to the dress-circle (second tier; only. The other stock theatres are a little more extravagant than this, I think. But see what the combination and start heatres are doing at the same time. At least 3,000 'window bills' a month are need in New-York by every star and combination of importance which comes here, and the lesser the straction the greater the 'billing.' That means 6,000 tickets at least to 'deadhea'is' say every month for each theatre using window bills. No theatre can stand that. Why, I am told there are three places where these 'bill board tickets' are sold in quantities in New-York. Those to whom they are issued sell teem for each or drinks. I understand that they are current over many bars at the price of a drink or 10 cents. The bar-keepers sell them to the dealers at a slight advance, who place them at about quarter rates to the public. I have been applied to by large mannfacturers employing numbers of women to know if I did not want my house filled by the distribution of several hundred tickets among their employes. I know of managers who faver them it his way. It is a favor to

for the recipient of a free ticket never buys afterward, but waits for a repetition of the favor."

END OF THE COMBINATION SYSTEM. "What is to be the future of the present combination system ?" Mr. Daly was asked. He has employed it at the close of each season and sometimes has had companies on the road during the run of pieces at the Broadway:

nies on the road during therm of pieces at the stead asys so he may be supposed to speak from experience. "The combination system, I think," he said, "is grad-ually destroying itself, and eventually I believe we shall have a return to the stock company system which for-merly prevailed, with a few leading stars travelling with have a return to the stock company system which formerly prevailed, with a few leading stars travelling with
their own principal support only—say two or three persons. Formerly stars travelled with a leading support
only, of the opposite sex. This change is being brought
about by two existing conditions. The people have been
surfeited with the uneven and oft-repeated performances of numerous combinations, which piny one piece
the season through and repeat it two or three times in
the same town. The companies are so numerous that
the standard has been greatly lowered; and this the public is quick to resont. The public of other cities may be
guiled once or twice by the trade—mark of a well—known
metropolitan theatre, but when they are asked to accept
as original companies combinations of the same
name but numerically titled they reject the whole of
them as frandulent. Then, too, managers find the star
and combination systems uncertain and sharing terms
uneven. Besides, they are expensive. Managers are
compelled to recognize the custom of paying for bill
board privileges by admissious; and these are very exacting in the smaller cities. Why, many of these combinations spend more money on their wail and window
printing than they do on the salaries. Managers frequently lose on one combination what they make on
three or four other engagements."

STOCK COMPANIES INGREASING. STOCK COMPANIES INCREASING.

"Besides," continued Mr. Daly, "the public evince a disposition to support good stock companies in the principal cities, and in these there is a notable increase in the stock-playing theatres. This past season New-York had three-stock companies; next season it will have seven. These will be Wallack's, the Star, Union Square, Madison Square. Fifth Avenue, the Bijou and Daly's—though the Bijou will be a musical company, I understand, but still a stock company. In Boston the Bijou, the Boston and the Museum will be stock theatres, and

the Boston and the Museum will be stock theatres, and it is just possible Mr. Stetson may make that of the Globe a stock company, as he has determined to do with the Fifth Avenne campany in this city.

"This system will gradually extend to the other cities, I think, and I do not think many seasons will elapse before there will be stock companies in each as of yore. Stars like Mary Anderson, Booth, McCullough and others of the first magnitude will find it to their interest to travel with just as low persons as possible, relying for their general support on the companies in the various cities visited; and this will give local managers a better percentage than stars with large companies can now offer them. The stars of lesser magnitude and the leading people who are wasting talents in melodramatic combinations will go back to the stage and learn anew the business they have almost forgotten while playing their specialities. From my point of view I tage this to be the eventual if not quite the immediate outcome of the star and combination systems—or system rather, for they are practically the same, the star, on one hand, using a compination company, and the combination, on the other hand, starring one of its members or the piece it plays. I may be mistaken in foreseeing this end of the system, but of one thing I am theroughly convined."

"And that is !"

"That there is more honest fame and solid satisfaction,

ut of one thing I am thoroughly convinced."

"And that is "

"That there is more honest fame and solid satisfaction, more benefit to the art of acting and the dramatic procession, and more money with less risk in the presenting of a thoroughly good stock company in comedy performances than in any other form of representation that know of—in New-York at least."

The imaginary button gave way at this juncture and Mr. Daly carried it off with the air of a man who has satisfied himself with the delivery of a fine sentiment, even if it does not happen to be strictly correct.

THE TRADE IN STRAW HATS

"Straw hats?" said a large manufacturer to a TRIBUNE reporter. "Yes, I guess I know a little about the trade. I ought to, for I sell about as many as any firm in the city, or the country either for that matter. We've got a small few lying around here, haven't we!" and he waved his hand toward the huge wareroom a hundred feet long by forty wide, every available inch of which was taken up with wooden case packed full of various styles of the weightiess head-gear. "Well, every bit of that stock will be sold out in two or three days if this weather keeps on. The trade has been a light one so far this year, but we none of us have carried very large stocks; so it has not pressed as heavity on us as it did has year, when the cold June left us with a large unused stock on our hands. This we had to get rid of before manufacturing our new stock."

"Is it true that there has been a combination among the manufacturers to keep the supply down and prevent the ruinous auction sales ?" said the reporter.

"If so, I know nothing about it. The only combination I know of was the early fail last year and the late spring this. As to the styles which are most in demand, you will get more information from a jobber or retail dealer. Each manufacturer makes up what his fancy or experience dictates as the most salable, and he then has to take his chances, or rather it is the jobber who risks the most, and it is not until the end of the season that it is known who has had the better foresight. There are very few large factories in New-York; our own and those of most other large city houses are in Massachusetta, where the work of sewing the strips together and fashioning them into the finished article is done. The straw itself is worked into the strips by another class of workers altogether and comes to us from all parts of the country. and is much in semand for the city trade. Country people do not care to pay a big price merely for fashlon. There is an imitation Mackinaw which is difficult to dis-tinguish from the genuine article, and as it is much cheaper we are supplying a great many to our customers. You vestibule was bright and cheerful and contains a statue can judge for "ourself as to the difference," and the manufacturer held up two hats for inspection, which from the black band outside to the broad ribbon inside the crown, marked in both cases "Gennine Mackinaw," were as like

true rated up two hats for inspection, which from the black band outside to the broad ribbon inside the crown, marked in both cases "Genuine Mackinaw," were as like as two peas.

"One sells for \$1° a dozen; the other for \$3." said he, and the retailer will probably sell one for \$3 and the other for \$2. Large profits it Well, you see, a hat passes through a good many hands after leaving the manufacturer and they all have to live. Another thing is that straw hats are a risky investment for the retailers. They have to carry a very large stock and run the chance of only selling a small percentage of those they have on hand. I don't think myself that there's been very much money for any one in the trade this year, but of course continued hot weather will make a big difference to jobbers and retailers. As to the manufacturers, their stock is either already out of their hands or disposed of in aivance."

In close proximity to the manufacturer's office are a number of jobbers, and one or two of these were visited. One of them said: "Yes, I guess no one has made a fortune this year by peddling straw hats, though, of course, an immense number are bound to be got rid of every year. What styles are being most sought after I well, large hats I mean those with a wide brim slightly turned up. The retailers tell me, however, that the fashionable young man, when he can bring himself so far to consult comfort instead of style as to wear a straw at all, prefers a narrow brin, affording of course no protection against the rays of the sun. The Mackinsw straw is as popular as ever this year, but is strictly what we call a city hat and is not sold to country buvers in any quantity to speak of. The hat most in favor in rural districts is the mixed straw, a mixture of white straw with either black or brown. It is made in low grades, is very cheap, retailing at 75 cents or \$1, and does not show the dirt so much as its aristocratic rival, the pure white or cream color. As to prices, we sei all the way from \$2.50 to \$50 a dozen, but very

THE APTHORPE MANSION.

A NOBLE ESTATE OF REVOLUTIONARY TIMES BE COME A PICNIC GROUND.

One of the most interesting relics of the Revciutionary War is the Apthorpe Mansion, now part of the hatel buildings or Wandel's Elm Park, a picnic ground in Ligh favor with German private schools, comprising two entire blocks running from Ninetieth to Ninetysecond-st. and from Ninth to Tenth-ave. This park is all that remains of the great Apthorpe demesne which in 1776, when it was occupied by General Howe, the British Commander-in-Chief, was fully 210 acres, and stretched on its west side as far as the Hudson River. Apthorpe was one of the merchant princes of the day, probably not wealthier than Mr. Walton, of Franklinprobably not wealthier than Mr. Walton, of Franklinsquare, whose famous residence still faces the great
Harper establishment, but of more political importance
and of higher standing with the Brifish officials who had
come to beat the American rebels into submission. He
was an Englishman who came to New-York with considerable capital and engaged in commerce very successfully. Finding his means increasing rapidly, he determined to create a landed estate which should be handed mined to create a landed estate which should be handed down to his posterity and keep the name of Apthorpe green in the minds of men to the remotest generations. With these views he purchased various parcels of land in 1762 and 1763 from different persons. From Dennis Hicks he bought for seventeen hundred pounds of colonial money the estate at "Bloomedale," which the former had purchased in 1746 from Anna Van Huysen, widow at Eyde Van Huysen, who had received it partly as a gift, partly in purchase from his father, Jeunis Eydesa Van Huysen in 1720. Further back than the Hollander with these extraordinary names the record does not go. Jeunis Eydesa it is believed may have been Hollandish in the beginning of the eighteenth century for Junius Odysseus. J. E. held his land apparently by allodisitude, the true meaning of which is "than which the

memory of man goeth no further," from the Gaelle word allod, which signifies "olden time." This estate was only 115 acres in extent, and Mr. Apthorpe purchased the other parcels from Oliver De Lancey, parced and from Sora Van Evera, widow of Myndert and Mrom Sora Van Evera, burcher and blacksmith of the city of Mew York and various sons and daughters, cartinen and wives of curtimen, of the city of New York aforessal. It is painful to be compelled to record that not of Van Evera daughters now more of the signatures being qualified as his or her mark. Apthorpe's land reached from Hudson's River to the Post Road, or Fifth-ave., and from Humphrey Jones's on the north to the common land belonging to the Corporation of the City of New-York on the south. Here he built himself a big house which faced both reast and west, and could be entered from the avenue of trees reaching to the Post Road or Harles and elms, and the trees on the shorter awene are chesinated in the state of the same of trees reaching to the Post Road or Harles and elms, and the trees on the shorter awene are still standing an another twees on the shorter awene are still standing an another twees on the shorter awene are still standing another twees on the shorter awene are still standing another twees on the shorter awene are still standing another twees on the shorter awene are still standing another twees on the shorter awene are still standing another twees on the shorter awene are still standing another twees on the shorter awene are still standing another twees on the shorter awene are still standing another twees the shorter awene are still standing another twees the shorter awene are still standing and the trees on the shorter awene are still standing and the store of the shorter awene are still standing and the store of the shorter awene are still standing and the store of the shorter awene are still standing and the store of the shorter and western façades to entire the still store the still standing to the shorter for the shorter for the sh

THE FOUNDLING ASYLUM. A GLIMPSE INTO ITS WORKINGS.

FOUNDLINGS ARE CARED FOR-A CRIB THAT HAS HELD THIRTEEN THOUSAND OF THEM.

The region bounded by Park and Lexington aves. and Sixty-fifth and Seventieth ets. is one of the most clevated on the central and eastern parts of Man-hattan Island. The great park is close at hand on the west, with its breezy groves and inviting thoroughfares; northward the landscape stretches away in a falling grade toward Harlem and the wooded bill country be yond; while the East River, with its island charities and institutions bordered by the pretty villas of Astoria, completes the environment. Here is the great armory of the 7th Regiment, and the Gothic buildings of the Normal College, and in the immediate neighbor-hood, the Convent and Church of the Dominican Fathers, the Hebrew Hospital and, most noticeable of all, the group of buildings known as the Foundling Asylum. It occupies an entire block, between Lexington and Third aves, and Sixty-eighth and Sixty-ninth sts., the great façade stretching along Sixty-eighth-st. with an unin-

terrupted southern exposure.

This asylum is among the most impressive and admirable of the public institutions devoted to charitable uses in the city. It is a symmetrical family of buildings, dein the city. It is a symmetrical raminy of outsings, de-veloped one after another as growing requirements de-manded harmonious of architectural relations, graceful in outline and so massed that while immediate commun-ication may be had between them, on each story, uninter-rupted light and ventilation are secured to every room and corridor. The plateau lies well above the street level, and the buildings are far enough removed to secure quiet and seclusion. While there are visiting days each mouth when the whole institution may be inspected, a visit made a short time ago by a TRIBUNK reporter proved that, a legitimate call of study and observation would not be intrusive at any time. The Paul, the founder of the order of the Sisters of Charity, who have the asylum in charge. A spacious reception-room opens It is plainly furnished, with a and without a hint of luxury or leisurely comforts. There was harily time for these observations before Sister Irene, the Superior of the asylum, approached in the black dress and quaint shirred bonnet of the same color which are worn by all the Sisters indoors.

She is a slight, delicately-framed little woman, with fair complexion, blue eyes full of energy, a face beaming with intelligence and kindliness, and a dignified and refined address. The reporter's visit was welcomed with frank cordiality. "We are not in company dress to-day," she said, "and you must expect to find us at a great disadvantage. Indeed, I haven't time to strike the gong and warn the Sisters and nurses of your approach."

GROWTH FROM A SMALL BEGINNING. " How long has this work been established ?"

"I was sent by Mother Jerome in 1869 to build an asylum for foundlings, without a dollar or any visible grounds of hope or success. I began in East Twelfth-st. near St. Ann's Church, with one or two sisters to aid me. You know we have only to obey, so I set out, with a clear purpose and unbending determination to do my appointed work. I had no money, no responsible supporters, and every step was a venture of faith.

my appointed work. I had no money, no responsiole supporters, and every step was a venture of faith. Little by little by my unaided personal exertions I interested friends and collected funds sufficient for our humble beginnings."

"But all these great buildings, and this block of ground! The city authorities—"

"Yes, the city gave me this ground for ninety-nine years, and an annual sum is voted for the partial support of our children according to the number in charge; but not a dollar has it given me for my buildings, nor does the appropriation by any means defray the expenses of our administration. I am constantly depending upon the co-operation of the charitable. Yes, I have collected and expended between \$800,000 and \$700,000 on these buildings, furnishings and appliances. In debt! No, only a little matter of \$14,000 for this my last building, St. John's, which is our hospital; and this I shall easily provide for.

"My sisters now number thirty-three. Last year I lest three, through overwork and sheer exhaustion. The duties are ardious and confining, and we have no vacation or resplite, pursuing our quavarying routine year after year without change. We rise at 5 or haif past, according to the season, for mass, and are on duty aid day until 9 or half past at night—reserving but fortyfive minutes for recreation, when we are together, unless some argent duty prevents. There are no scalaries here, and no expenses for services except for the resident physician, the nurses, the domestics and the watchman."

LIFE IN THE NURSERY WARDS.

"There are six wards in which all the bables are distributed, occupying additions at right angles with the main editics and flanking it on each end. A sister sided by a matron has charge of each ward. The babies are mostly cared for and nursed by the mothers. We find that by this provision we are often helped in reaching and reforming these unfortunate creatures, who find some-times a road back to a life of restitude through the forming these unfortunate creatures, who find sometimes a road back to a life of restitude through the mother-love. They are persuaded to remain with the babes when practicable and deairable. They have a home, attendance, sympathy, and I put some money in the bank for them in anticipation of their re-entrance into the world. We have weddings here, too, sometimes—there were three last week—and so we now and then hely repair the mischief and wrong of these unfortunates. How many have I in charge f Well, with sisters, matrons, mothers and bables I have now about 900 on my hunds in these buildings to be provided for, nursed, fed and directed. We have also an immense out-door department. More than 1,000 of our babes are nursed in city homes. A detective is placed at the service of the asylinm, and we exercise all possible prudence in placing our little ones so that they shall receive homest and fathful care. The Society of 8t. Vincent de Paul co-operates with us, and the gentlemen district the city and a certain number of our babes are placed under each one's oversight. Once or twice each month each home and nurse are visited, and the baby is never long out of our aight. On the first Wedneaday of each month I require each nurse to be present here with her baby, and then one may see 1,500 babies and more than 800 mothers and nurses, when all undergo a rigid inspection by the matrons and physician. That is our menthly pay day, and I pay out from \$9.000 to \$10,000 on that day to those outside nurses. You see it all goes back into creculation in the city, and the people who are taxed for our appropriation get it back again."

"Who are eligible or receivable ?"

"All illegitimate babes born within the corporate limits of the city, and the majority of the babies are not of Irish or Catholic parentage. Of ourse we exercise every precaution to protect the interest of the city so that not a dollar shall be wasted or diverted from its

and if the

How is this department conducted, and do you find "How is this department conducted, and do you find places county h"
"Our correspondence is constant and we have applications for many more than we can offer. We have a traveller who visits every applicant, carefully scrutinizes his character and reputation and settles all questions of responsibility before any application is accepted. When the inquiry is ended, and the age, appearance, etc., of the desired child are agreed upon, we teach the child its future name and accustom it to look for and expect its "papa and mamma"; the child is thereafter known by that name among us. Of ocurse they go into Christian families, and almost always where there are no children. That is why we take so much pains with t eir habits, training, manners and appearance—in order that they may please and win their way into the hearts of their parents. Their antecedents are absolutely protected and impenetrable as to the curious or malicious. Indeed, in most instances we are satisfied that their homes and lives prove better and more desirable than might have been hoped for in the natural order of things."

MORTALITY AMONG THE CHILDREN.

MORTALITY AMONG THE CHILDREN. From the physician's report it was observed fearful percentage, 494 out of a total of 1,578, had died during the year. "The figures are appalling," said Stater Irene; "but please observe that almost 86 percent of these deaths are under one year of age. This is the fatality hanging over all foundlings. It must be borne in mind that offspring of crime are unwelcome, that they are frequently consumed with disease, are brought here exposed to all kinds of inclement weather scantily clothed, improperly cared for and sometimes, almost stricken with death. When this hopeless ele-ment is eliminated, we think the survivors are rather more vigorous and hopeful than the average run of chil-dren, especially under the splendid care and regime of such a home as this."

such a home as this."

Before the conversation was ended the reporter and his guide had begun the round of inspection. Broad and high corridors running cast and west opened into the wings. At the west a complete maternity hospital—8t. Ann's—has recently been erected and furnished for private patients as well as for friendless women. Here as everywhere else an odoriess purity of consummate cleanliness pervaded all spaces and places, and the ventilation seemed perfect. The six wards are uniform in size and arrangement. The double cribs are arranged en each side of the long, perfectly lighted and ventilated ward, at right angles with the broad sisles from end to end. At the side of each crib is a single bed which the nurse occupies. A matron and Sister steep in each ward. At each end of every crib lies a babe.

SISTERS AND LITTLE ONES AT PLAY. During the daytime the "run-arounds" as the sisters call them, are assigned to these wards, and keep s lively round of frolic and romping—sleeping at night in nicely appointed dormitories on another floor. Never were seen cleaner or merrier children. No nursery tumes polluted the air.

The elder children are systematically taught in a kind-

ergarten, with its numberless pretty play studies and object-lessons. The sisters romp with the youngsters,

ergarten, with its numberless pretty play studies and object-lessons. The sisters romp with the youngsters, drive them about in worsted lines—in plain English, "play horse" with them—and engage in other merry sports. At stated times each group passes an hour in the grounds under the same watchful oversight. The comeliness and beauty of the children, babes and older alike, were remarkable, and the sisters were not slow in appreciating the attractive points of their charge.

Through ward after ward of the same snowy whiteness and unimpeachable sweetness and cleanliness the reporter threaded his way; from floor to floor and from wing to wing, past great wardrobes filled with all manner of seasonable clothing carefully selected and daintly made on the premises—sixteen sewing machines on the top floor going all the time and mainly under the hands of "mothers" and penificute being reclaimed—past great lavatories, and inviting dining and store rooms with burnished this and culinary ware; through the quiet hospital wards where the same gentle, skilled solicitude was manifested, through treat store-rooms, with judicious supplies of all needful things, through the great kitchen with its mammeth ranges and reservoirs, where great plies of fragrant loaves are in waiting; past manifold surprises and achievement in domestic and indoor administration; and past the scenes of the recent fire, where within seven minutes at dead of night 300 babes and mothers were silently transferred to an adjaining building out of danger. In the basement was found the financial and clerkly department. No salaries nor men accountants here—only two or three quiet, busy and intelligent sisters. Here nearly \$250,000, year after year, is dealt with and accounted for, without a penny's loss or a definition. I Adjacent is the dispensary, under the administration of a sister—or the old Van Rensselaer family—who will be remembered in connection with the celebrated school for familing of nurses at Bellevue Hospital.

At the hall door Sister Irene paused,

The reporter had read the number 13,478 in the register opposite the last arrival a few hours before!

NEW PLAYS FOR NEXT SEASON.

"ACE OF CLUBS" AT WALLACKS: "STORM BEATEN" AT THE UNION SQUARE, AND "FEDORA" AT THE FIFTH AVENUE AND HAVERLY'S.

Augustus Cazauran has been for ten years the regularly employed dramatist of the Union Square Theatre. He is probably the first person ever retained in this capacity in any theatre in America. His remuneration was a fixed salary-\$15 a week at the start, he says-and a certain percentage on the receipts of "The Banker's Daughter," for altering which to suit the Union Square company Shook & Palmer paid him irrespective of the copyright royalty paid Bronson Howard, the author. He has recently renewed his engagement with Shook & Collier and remains as dramatist, but he is at liberty under the new contract to write for other managers and for other actors. He has just fluished a dramatization for John Stetson, a transletion for Loster Wal-lack and an adaptation for Shook & Collier, and is under contract to Marie Prescott and Mary Anderson to write original plays for them on themes suggested by

" Did you arrange 'The Thunderbolt' for production!" he was asked.

" No. I relicarsed it, however. There was no arranging to do. When I was told it was by the Poet Laureate

he was asked.

"No. I relicarsed it, however. There was no arranging to do. When I was told it was by the 'Poet Laureate of Camada,' whoever that may be, and a writer whose two most pretentious poeus had been 'crowned' by the Prench Academy, I thought there would be a great deal of 'cutting' to' do, but there was none whatever. The Author seemed studiously to avoid anything like poetry in his text, and wrote pishily and concisely, and what I thought a rather commonplace dialogue, leading up to his 'situations' and 'climaxes' very adroitly and briefly."

"You have been at work for other mynagers, I hear?"

"My new contract with Shook & Collier permits us to do so. Henry French engaged one to translate the 'Acc of Clubs', which he sold to Wallack, who bought it after reading it in the original French. I find to adapt it to the American stage only by cutting out or modifying such expressions as would not be telerated if spotsen in a New-York theatre. I understoot that Mr. Wallack, was much dissatisfied with his barrier dissatisfied with my work, and went to him aboutit. But he told me that he liked the trustation better than the original, because It leasened the offensive features which were the basis of his objections. The play turns upon the detection of a murder, the only clew to which is the finding, beside the body, of a card, 'the acc of clubs', marked with a finger mai after the manner of zamblers. The whole plot of the play turns on the efforts of detectives to flud to what pack the card belonged. The principal characters are detectives and fast women, and these are not the classes which 'the Governor' thinks ought to be presented to a Wallack audience. But he is to open with this place next september."

"What have you been doing for Stetson!"

"I have made him a dramatization of the same as the heart of Fedora is not to be played by any person who has seen Bernbardt or Mrs. Bernard-Beere, who imitates her, play the part."

"It is on Miss Davenport is to produce the 'Fedora,' which will be an imitation. Bu